

POLICE BEAT

Surfside Takes First Place in Florida Traffic Safety Challenge

Surfside Police Department is proud to have been awarded first place in the Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge. To attain this prestigious recognition the Department competed against 40 law enforcement agencies statewide in the category of 31-50 Officers. The Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge is designed to recognize an agency's effectiveness in traffic safety. The Challenge encourages a multi-faceted approach that results in a safer community, including policies regarding traffic safety initiatives, education of personnel, Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) Program participation, recognition and enforcement. The Challenge recognizes the best overall traffic safety initiatives promoting safer driving in the agency's community.



FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL ASSISTS IN TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT



The Florida highway Patrol has joined forces with the Surfside Police Department in the ongoing operations of enhanced traffic safety education and enforcement. The purpose of this operation was for public education and enforcement of traffic violations. A special thank you to former Mayor Paul Novack, a member of the Florida Highway Patrol Advisory Committee, for his assistance in coordinating the effort.

SEPTEMBER OFFICER OF THE MONTH

Officer Matthews Shows Heroic Efforts at a Tragic Crash

On his way to work in his marked vehicle, Officer Joseph Matthews came upon a serious traffic crash. He assessed the scene and found a shaken female holding an infant near a crashed cars. He radioed for immediate emergency for the likelihood of multiple injuries. The woman ran to Officer Matthews' car with the baby pleading for help. The infant had no visible signs of trauma, but was not breathing and had no heartbeat. Officer Matthews performed CPR compressions and instructed the mother to perform rescue breathing. While continuing the compressions, Officer Matthews asked a person standing-by to press a button on his police radio so he could provide updates that were passed to those en route to the scene. He continued compressions until Miami-Dade Fire Rescue arrived. Several adults and children were transported to the hospital and the infant was airlifted to Jackson Trauma Center. Despite the valiant efforts of the first responders and hospital staff, the 20-day-old infant died. A one-



year and two-year-old were hospitalized in stable condition.

The efforts and actions by all first responders were remarkable. Officer Joseph Matthews is recognized for his prompt action. He safely and effectively coordinated the

on-scene response of a horrific tragedy and mitigated injuries. Officer Joseph Matthews received the Surfside September Officer of the Month award. The Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police has also awarded Officer Matthews the prestigious Miami-Dade County Officer of the Month Award for September 2020.

BLOOD DRIVE AT TOWN HALL ON NOVEMBER 18, 2020

The Surfside Police Department is hosting a blood drive in conjunction with the One Blood organization. The blood drive will take place on **Wednesday, November 18, 2020** from **11 am to 4:30 pm**. The blood mobile will be located in the Town Hall parking lot. For further information please contact Dina Goldstein at (305) 861-4862 or dgoldstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov

